



Charles R. Drew University
of Medicine and Science



State of the University Address

David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President and CEO

Tuesday, October 2, 2012
Delivered on the campus of
Charles R. Drew University

Order of the Program

Welcome

James Lott, MBA
Chairman, Board of Trustees, Charles R. Drew University
of Medicine and Science

Invocation

Rev. Jeffrey Thomas, Sr., '10
Alumnus, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
College of Science and Health

Pledge of Allegiance

(Audience Participation)

Arthur W. Fleming, MD, FACS
Emeritus Professor, Department of Surgery, Charles R. Drew
University of Medicine and Science
Past, Chairman, Department of Surgery
Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.)

Introduction of President David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD

James Lott, MBA

State of the University Address

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Closing Remarks

President David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD

Reception immediately following



Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

**David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President and CEO**

October 2, 2012 10:00 A.M.

Thank you to everyone who is here today for my very first State of the University Address.

It has been more than five years since a president of this institution stood before you to address the State of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, a fact made even more relevant by all that has transpired in that time.

To be frank, it wasn't too long ago that it seemed we could be facing a situation where the University would cease to be in any state at all.

But here we are!


The story of our survival is still being written.

Forty six years ago, Charles R. Drew University rose out the ashes of a burned and battered city. The institution was given a clear mission—to address the inadequate access to healthcare in this community.

And now, Charles R. Drew University is rising once again.

Under the leadership of our Board of Trustees and with the involvement of our Board of Councilors, we have regained our financial footing.

We have garnered tremendous support from foundations like The California Endowment and UniHealth Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, our own CDU Board, staff,



faculty, students, alumni and other CDU friends through our Annual Mission Maker Campaign and from local leaders like Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Congresswoman Laura Richardson and Congresswoman Maxine Waters.

We listened to the community and have restored the “R.” in the name of the University. Indeed, we are the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science.

We have regained our academic standing. This includes, reaccreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education and new accreditation by the Council on Education for Public Health and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission for our Urban Public Health Program and the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing, respectively. I must mention that the testimony of Uzoma Uwakah a MSN Candidate for the 2013 Class of the MMDSON helped pave the way to our NLNAC accreditation.

Under the leadership of Dr. Ilaria Brun del Re, our Vivarium Director, the Vivarium has received full accreditation by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International. And, for the first time in the University’s history we obtained radiation safety accreditation for a continuous period of nine years under the leadership of Edward Assanah, our Director of the Office of Research Operations.

And last year, we graduated our largest class of matriculated students ever.

Friends, there is still much work to be done, but the state of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science is stronger than it has been in quite some time.

We regained our footing because, throughout our trials, we never lost sight of who we are, where we are or why we were founded.


We never lost sight of our mission.

We remain committed to eliminating the very real disparities that exist in our healthcare system.

We remain committed to engagement with our community, to training excellent and compassionate professionals.

Above all else, ***we remain committed to transforming the health of underserved communities with excellence and compassion.***

Your new leadership shares that mission. It is the commitment that CDU leadership,



faculty and staff have to our students and to the communities our students will serve that ultimately allows us to thrive.

And our campus is full of life.

I said before that we graduated our largest class of matriculated students this summer, when we conferred degrees and certificates upon 252 outstanding students from eight programs across three different schools and colleges at CDU.

I would be remiss if I did not mention that those graduates included the first graduates of the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing.

Dr. Mervyn Dymally has been one of this institution's greatest patrons. It was 39 years ago today, October 2, 1973, that Senate Bill 1026 was enacted to allocate state support for CDU. Then-Senator Dymally was the author of this Bill. In the State Senate, as Lieutenant Governor, as Congressman, and later, upon his return to the Assembly, Mervyn Dymally has always stood by our side. The graduates of the school that bears his name carry impressive legacy.


But insofar as legacies recognize past, they symbolize the way that the past is carried into the future and I have my Senior Advisor Dr. Gus Gill to thank for keeping me apprised of our past in order to help guide and build a bright future.

At some point in the future, the 26 students with whom we celebrated Match Day last spring will enter the practice of medicine. What was notable about these 26 outstanding CDU graduates is not the institutions where they will complete their residencies, but the fact that almost two-thirds of them chose to focus on becoming primary care physicians.

As we face a health professional shortage in this country, a shortage that is exasperated by the disparities that persist in underserved communities like this one, there is no more satisfying expression of the CDU mission, no greater evidence of our faculty's commitment to that mission, than to see that our students leave these walls as determined to give back to the community as they were the day they first set foot on campus.

To be sure, our faculty's pursuit of cutting-edge research and dedication to make lasting contributions to the health of our community, our state and our nation, ensures that our mission is not only fulfilled through instruction but our research as well.

To continue our leadership as a top-tier research institution, we will focus on developing our research as well as our researchers. As part of our recent strategic planning process, we committed to ensuring that those involved in the research process are supported by the infrastructure they need to ensure that high quality research training exist at CDU.



This is not to say that the quality of research taking place here is anything less than world class.

We are home to Dr. Keith Norris.

Dr. Norris is the Executive Vice President for Research and Health Affairs at CDU. He is the principal investigator for numerous grants from the National Institutes of Health and has been responsible for bringing more than \$150 million in research funding to our campus. In 2011, Dr. Norris received the Meritorious Achievement Award at the National Medical Association's Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly.

But the NMA wasn't done with Dr. Norris.

Earlier this year, Dr. Norris also received the National Medical Association's Leadership Award for his leadership and dedication to closing the gap in health disparities. Dr. Norris' recognition by the NMA—the oldest and largest organization representing African American physicians in the United States—is a loud endorsement of his work and a statement about the quality of our faculty.

We are home to Dr. Jay Vadgama, Chief, Division of Cancer Research and Training; Director, Center to Eliminate Health Disparities; Associate Vice President for Research and Health Affairs.

Dr. Vadgama works tirelessly to build local and national partnerships in cancer research with a focus in translational cancer research; provide leadership and direction in the growth of cancer research with a focus on cancer health disparities at the national and international level; recruit, educate, train competitive post-doctoral fellows, medical, nursing and graduate students, as well as undergraduate and high school students to perform research in cancer health disparities at CDU; and to provide leadership on various institutional committees to establish policies and procedures for faculty appointment and promotion; and harmonization between faculty and administrative units.

We are also home to Dr. Theodore Friedman.

Dr. Friedman chairs the department of internal medicine, serves as chief of the division of endocrinology, metabolism and molecular medicine and is an endowed professor of cardio-metabolic medicine here.

This summer, Dr. Friedman presented groundbreaking research on the correlation between second-hand smoke and Type 2 diabetes at the Endocrine Society's Annual Meeting in Houston. Dr. Friedman's research found that the association between passive smoking and Type 2 diabetes was not related to obesity, and opened up a new opportunity to research the causal relationship between secondhand smoke and diabetes.



And we are home to Professor Cynthia Davis.

Professor Davis has spent nearly three decades developing HIV/AIDS education, risk and testing programs targeting at-risk communities of color. She developed Los Angeles County's first mobile HIV testing program in 1991, and this year successfully planned, coordinated and implemented a National HIV Testing Day event in partnership with the Magic Johnson Foundation, Kaiser Permanente and Shell Oil Company.

The Magic Johnson foundation honored Professor Davis with the 2nd Annual Magic Johnson World AIDS Day award last year, and in the coming year, she aims to screen more than 10,000 at-risk African American and Latina females between the ages of 15 and 45 in South L.A. to secure private sector funding for a new mobile testing van and to provide sustainable funding for CDU's mobile testing and prevention project.

Finally, Charles R. Drew University is home to Dr. Suzanne Porszasz-Reisz.


Dr. Porszasz-Reisz, already a recognized expert on the subject of myopathy and muscle wasting, was awarded a patent this summer that will help researchers study the effects of Myostatin, a protein thought to inhibit muscle mass. Suzanne's discovery will be essential to every researcher studying weakness in aging and in chronic diseases such as cancer and heart failure.

Suzanne Porszasz-Reisz, Cynthia Davis, Theodore Friedman, Jay Vadgama and Keith Norris are just five examples of the extraordinary, committed faculty here at CDU. They would be welcomed at any health professions school in the world. And they choose to be here, at Charles R. Drew University, because they are committed to our mission, to our community, and to our students.

Our CDU staff is equally impressive,

Mr. Sergio Hernandez was the first recipient of the 2012 Staff Member of the Month Award (SMMA). Accolades poured in about his ability to help students achieve their educational goals; his unwavering support of the Medical Imaging Radiologic Technology Program, and his dedicated work ethic.

Ms. Tonya King was the second recipient of the 2012 SMMA program; she was nominated for her dedicated years of service and her ability to coordinate efforts between the various departments within the Office of Administration. Ms. King has been instrumental with the hard work to reopen the University Café; her efforts in this area have allowed the University to serve its community.



Ms. Claudia Corleto is the third recipient of the SMMA program; Ms. Corleto has assumed additional duties beyond the scope of her position, including providing babysitting services to CDU students in an effort to support student attendance. Ms. Corleto has been instrumental in planning and preparing for the MPH Program accreditation.

Mr. David Ramos is the fourth recipient of the SMMA program and the only employee that received a nomination from the CDU student body; Mr. Ramos was nominated for his superb customer service. The nomination toted accolades that esteemed him as enthusiastic, humble, and a positive influence on peers, supervisors, and the university community. This nomination served to spotlight Mr. Ramos' good works and his ability to provide guidance to CDU's most precious commodity... its students.

We get to be doubly proud of Dr. Porszasz-Reisz, because she is not just a faculty success story.

Dr. Porszasz-Reisz, a member of the Master of Science in Clinical Research class of 2007, is also one of the many alumni who achieved great things this year.

Alumni like Dr. Tumaini Rucker Coker. Dr. Coker, an assistant professor of pediatrics at UCLA is also a natural scientist at the RAND Corporation and health services researcher at the UCLA/RAND Prevention Research Center.

In 2011, Dr. Coker was awarded the Association of American Medical Colleges Herbert W. Nickens Faculty Fellowship. This national award recognizes outstanding junior faculty who have demonstrated leadership in addressing inequalities in medical education and health care; demonstrated efforts in addressing educational, societal and health care needs of minorities; and are committed to a career in academic medicine.

Dr. Keith Wilson, class of 1981 was presented with the 2012 Corporate Innovative Award by the National Medical Fellowships.

Dr. Glenville March, class of 1995 and CEO of March Vision Care, Inc., was also honored by National Medical Fellowships with their Distinguished Alumni Award.

Finally, Dr. Manuel Campa, class of 2012 continued a decade-long tradition of having a Drew graduate inducted into the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and has gone on to become a resident at the Harbor-UCLA Family Medicine Residency Program.

Our alumni have left their mark, not only in Los Angeles, but also overseas, where CPT Rodrigo Mabasa, class of 2007, just returned from a tour of Duty.

And then there are our current students; today, I want to tell you about Yamanda Mack.

Yamanda is currently a fourth-year medical student in the Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program.

She grew up in Compton, and when she was 14, her father died of colon cancer and Yamanda's mother was suddenly a single parent with three children to support.

Yamanda was inspired by the sacrifices made by her mother, who instilled in Yamanda the belief that she could achieve her goals by working tirelessly and diligently.

Those goals included a desire to pursue a career in medicine, and Yamanda enrolled at the King/Drew Magnet High School of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, where she participated in a research project that investigated colon cancer. Yamanda was the first member of her family to attend a university, majoring in psychobiology at UCLA.

She has continued to give back to the Compton Willowbrook community during her time at CDU, helping to organize the student-run health fair at a local church, and taking a leadership role in Project Santa Claus, the annual CDU Christmas event for community children.

Yamanda is also an organizer and active participant in the Partnership for Progress mentoring project at the King-Drew Medical Magnet High School. The P4P program is an outstanding mentoring program because our medical students are working to remove a key obstacle—competitive SAT scores—that prevents students in this community from entering college.

Yamanda will leave us in a few months. She's planning on doing her residency in psychiatry and hopes to return to South Los Angeles to practice in the community where she grew up.

Yamada Mack, and so many students with similar stories, brings life to our mission each and every day.

I've referred back to our mission several times today. That's no accident. We are, after all, a health professions university that was *founded* on the principle that communities like this one—that *every community in this nation*—deserves access to quality health care and excellent clinicians.

This year, I created the President's Community Advisory Council to provide a forum for collaborative dialogue with our community, and for the community to re-connect with the University. The Advisory Council will be a standing committee of my office, and will



focus on communication with our neighbors, community involvement, educational advancement, development and fundraising and health promotion.

The President's Advisory Council underscores a core belief of mine—in order to serve our community, we must be a part of our community.

That is the commitment I have made as president of this institution. It is a commitment to our community. And it is a commitment to our future.

I want to say that last part again. It is a commitment to our future.

I pause there because, again, there was a time that our future was anything but guaranteed.

Those days are behind us.

This year, CDU has undertaken a strategic planning process to chart our path forward. This planning process built on already completed work that created an infrastructure for oversight of an academic review process; streamlined our recruitment, admissions, enrollment, financial aid and retention processes, and examined academic planning and resource allocation.

Through our strategic planning process, we are identifying the way forward on four specific fronts.


First, and most importantly, is education. After all, a principal role of this institution is to educate.

We will continue to focus on graduate and advanced health professional degrees for students committed to serving under-resourced communities.

We will continue to align our degree requirements in the context of the Affordable Care Act, making sure that our students are prepared for the world in which they will practice.

And we will create a sustainable, tuition-based, education model that supports the CDU mission, the University, and our students. We will continue the growth of the School of Nursing and develop a critical mass of students in the existing Life Sciences, General Studies and Masters in Urban Public Health Programs. We will invest in additional faculty and staff to develop a Master of Science program for Physicians Assistants, and to develop and implement the Doctor of Nursing Practice curriculum of study.

I must tell you that as we work hard to expand our academic programs, we are working



equally as hard to enhance the student experience at CDU. We began this school year with an enrollment of 662 students— 123 in the College of Medicine, 229 in the College of Science and Health, and 310 in the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing.

This class was pulled from an applicant pool that increased 60% over the previous year—the result of hard work by our student services team, who attended more than 100 events last year in an effort to increase our visibility.

The increased applicant pool and our greater visibility are critical steps in our journey. A growing applicant pool doesn't just bring us more students, it brings us better students who will make better doctors and nurses and researchers, bringing us closer and closer to our mission.

We are expanding the resources available to students, and increasing interdisciplinary interaction between students and faculty.

The Cobb Learning Resource Center —which is used by all three colleges for instruction, workshops and testing—has new workstations, monitors and projectors.

And speaking of the library...

We hosted the 1st Annual CDU Authors Tea this year, but don't let the name fool you. The "tea" presented more than 5,800 publications from faculty, researchers, staff and students. A truly impressive showing by the Drew Community.


Our library director, Darlene Parker Kelly, has been selected to serve as a member of the Regional Medical Library's Regional advisory committee.

Darlene also presented a poster at the AAMC Western Group on Educational Affairs conference this year—yet another example of Drew faculty research gaining wider acclaim.

In the strategic planning process, we committed to raising Charles R. Drew University's status as a leading academic research institution, integrating a robust university-wide research curriculum into the educational fabric of CDU.

This curriculum will focus on key themes that align with CDU's strengths and resources, specifically in the areas of health disparities and health conditions/outcomes that afflict underserved communities.

Critical to the training of compassionate and qualified clinicians is the expansion of our



clinical enterprise.

I am committed—and the University is committed—to expanding, establishing and strengthening our affiliations with other local providers.

We will position CDU faculty members as providers of care in the community.

As everyone here knows, the University and the community were dealt a significant blow with the closing of Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center five years ago.

But as the County prepares to re-open the center next year, we are committed to creating the institutional value needed to re-establish our relationship with the hospital.

We are excited about our future with Martin Luther King and look forward to the day when our students are in residency in our community!

We also seek to operationalize a full-service nurse-managed mobile primary care unit to address the healthcare needs of the surrounding underserved community

Finally, we will invest in the core resource needs of the university—the staff, the training and the systems needed to provide a high-quality environment for all of our students and faculty. Part of this investment will be to fund the capital improvements we need to undertake in order to recruit and retain the best students and faculty


To finance these investments, we will vigilantly seek funding from foundations, corporations, our alumni and other individuals, who are as committed and dedicated as we are to providing access to health professions education and health care in underserved areas like South Los Angeles, across California, across the nation and in other countries.

Executing this plan will be no small undertaking.

And in return for your support and commitment, I pledge to you the following:

This University will carefully manage our investments in administrative infrastructure to ensure both sufficient support for academic programs and the financial stability of the institution.

We will establish, for the first time, an institutional advancement and fundraising function that solicits and acquires gift funds for program development and for financial aid to deserving students and that will provide contributors with gift acknowledgement and an annual report that highlights exactly how your investments are being used.



To accomplish this goal, we have already begun an unprecedented campaign to engage our alumni and to increase scholarship support for our students with a \$250,000 matching grant opportunity from The California Endowment for the Mrs. Lillian Harkless Mobley Presidential Endowed Scholarship Fund. Many of you know that Mrs. Mobley's commitment to health service, education access and economic opportunities for South Los Angeles and her deeds along with other women—Mary Henry, Nola Carter, Caffie Green, Johnnie Tilman and Edna Alawine, paved the way for the University we know today.

We will also reinvest a defined percentage of incremental revenue in core functions of the university that are affected by program growth. In doing so, we create a sustainable model that will allow our institution to thrive.

As I close this, my first State of the University Address, I feel it bears repeating what I said at the opening.

The state of this institution is stronger than it has been in quite some time, but not as strong as it will be at this time next year.

We have risen from the ashes.

We have raised our trajectory.

And there are great days ahead.

With each day, we are closer to realizing our Vision.

And with the commitment of our faculty and staff, the dedication of our students, and the help of our community, there will be no obstacles that we cannot overcome.

Thank you!

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal grey lines across its entire surface, providing a template for handwriting practice or general note-taking. The margins are consistent on all sides.



About Our President

David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President and CEO
Charles R. Drew University of
Medicine and Science



Biographical Sketch

Dr. David Carlisle is the President and CEO of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. He is the immediate past director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. He was appointed in 2000 by then Gov. Gray Davis to that high-level role in the state's Health and Human Services agency. Responsible for managing health-related programs, he directed an organization of more than 500 employees in seven key areas, and a \$100 million annual budget.

Dr. Carlisle advocated for greater diversity within the health care industry as his career blossomed. He has been a member of the faculty since 1992 at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. During that period, he also consulted for the RAND/UCLA Center for Health Policy Studies. In 2007, he became a senior fellow at UCLA's School of Public Affairs.

His clinical work revolved around caring for the underserved. Dr. Carlisle still serves as a volunteer doctor at the Venice Family Clinic. The center, based on the west side of Los Angeles County and co-founded by CDU researcher Mayer Davidson, M.D., describes itself as the largest free clinic in the U.S.

He earned his Medical Degree in 1981 from Brown University; his Master of Public Health in 1988 from UCLA; and his Ph.D. in 1992 from UCLA's School of Public Health. While in Westwood, Dr. Carlisle earned a prestigious fellowship as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar. Over the years, he published numerous papers, and spoke at many forums. A common theme has been health disparities and access to care. Dr. Carlisle and his spouse Dr. Sylvia Carlisle have a son, David and a daughter, Aimee.



The Mission

To conduct education, research, and clinical services in the context of community engagement, to train health professionals who promote wellness, provide care with excellence and compassion and transform the health of underserved communities

CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY

OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

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